

mark;

a flat article placed around the barrel to cover the barrel of the marking device;

a band secured around the flat article to hold the flat article on the barrel; and

a cap having a lead extending from the cap wherein the cap is removably attached to the barrel at the second end.

Please amend Claim 15 as follows:

15. A marking device accessory kit, the accessory kit comprising:  
a marking device having a body defined between a first end and a second end wherein the first end has a tip capable of producing a mark;

a sheath defined between a first end and a second end wherein the sheath covers the body of the marking device and forms a gap between the first end and the second end of the sheath leaving a portion of the body of the marking device not covered by the sheath;

an end cap removably attached on the second end of the marking device wherein the end cap is interchangeable between a plurality of marking devices; and

a connecting lead having a first end and a second end wherein the first end of the connecting lead extends from the end cap and is removably connected to the end cap.

Please amend Claim 17 as follows:

17. A method of using a marking device, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a barrel having a body defined between a first end and a second end wherein the first end has a tip capable of producing a mark;

providing a sheath that covers the barrel between the first end and the second end wherein the sheath is coated with an antimicrobial substance;

providing an end cap for fitting over the second end of the barrel wherein the end cap has a connecting lead that extends from the end cap;

fitting the sheath over the barrel between the first end and the second end; and

fitting the end cap over the second end of the barrel.

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Please cancel Claim 18.